ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

System and method are disclosed for bridging a point-to-point network such as a Bluetooth scatternet with a shared medium network such as an Ethernet LAN. The scatternet is connected to the LAN via a network access point (NAP). Data packets sent from the LAN to the scatternet are filtered at the NAP to eliminate unnecessary data packets from being sent to the scatternet. Only certain ones of the data packets are forwarded between the LAN and the scatternet. An inter-NAP protocol is used to exchange messages where two or more NAPs are connected to the LAN. Broadcast loops are prevented from occurring in the scatternet and the LAN by defining Administrative domains and NAP service areas (NAPSAs), and controlling the borders thereof according to a broadcast type of the data packets.